

## Marine Corps Reserve Contributions to the Global War on Terrorism

The Marine Corps Reserves have been involved in protecting America's interests since 1916. Experience and subsequent changes in doctrine over the past 90 years have increased the Reserve's readiness and ability to fulfill its mission to support and augment the active duty Marine forces in their assigned missions around the globe.

As we move further into the 21st Century, Marine Forces Reserve continues to enhance its capabilities in an ever-changing world.

The Marines and Sailors of Marine Forces Reserve are trained and equipped to respond to any crisis around the world and possess the capabilities to fight across



the full spectrum of potential conflicts. Reserve forces stand poised to quickly mobilize and respond to world-wide missions abroad-most recently in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Horn of Africa, or at home if needed, as was the case in the support of Joint Task Force Katrina (JTF-Katrina). Highly trained Marine Reserves continue to reinforce and augment active duty forces for sustained operations in the Middle East.

The Marine Reserve Force remains strong and constant due to the committed Marines in our ranks, our high retention and recruiting rates, and the ever-increasing benefits that Reserve Marines and their families enjoy.

Even though combat experience is becoming common with most reserve units, Reserve Marines continued to train to sustain an ever-increasing level of readiness for future challenges. A strong Inspector-Instructor (I&I) system and a demanding Mobilization and Operational Readiness Deployment Test (MORDT) program ensured Marine Corps Reserve units maintain a high level of pre-mobilization readiness. In addition to I&I and the MORDT program, the Peacetime/Wartime Support Team is the “third leg” that allows for a high level of preparation by ensuring our sites are properly supported during the mobilization.

Reserve Marine mission accomplishments during Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom II (OIF II) include:

8th Tank Battalion, in support of Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, formed,

trained and deployed two Provisional Security Companies (REIN), strengthening the world-wide anti-terrorist position in North Africa.

Marines from 4th Marine Division and the 4th Marine Logistic Group staffs, in support of Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, provided detachments to Camp Lemonier, Djibouti that formed the Nucleus Staff and the command Logistics Element.

The 4th Civil Affairs Group conducted Civil Military Operations and projects in an effort to improve the quality of life for the Iraqi people. They conducted over 250 missions to evaluate and assess infrastructure, engaged with the local populace, managed construction projects and identified medical needs. The initiation and management of more than 200 projects that focused on education, health care, water and sanitation, and roads and bridges construction were further accomplished by the detachment.

3RD Battalion, 25th Marines, attached to Regimental Combat Team 2(RCT-2), conducted Security and Stability Operations (SASO) and Offensive Operations against the Anti-Iraqi Forces in the Al Anbar Province. 3/25 conducted and participated in numerous Offensive Operations to include Operations MATADOR and NEW MARKET.

1st Battalion, 25th Marines provided the personnel necessary to form the Afghan National Army Embedded Training Teams (ANA-ETT). The ANA-ETT's supported OEF by providing training to the Afghan National Army.

Elements of Headquarters, 24th Marines, 4th Tank Battalion, 4th Reconnaissance Battalion, 4th Assault Amphibious Vehicle Battalion and the 4th Combat Engineer Battalion formed the Provisional Small Craft Company in order to act as the Haditha Dam Security Unit and provide security in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq. This was unique in that the Small Craft Capability was not resident in the reserves.

5th Civil Affairs Group deployed to Iraq and performed a wide variety of Civil Military Operations and projects in an effort to improve the quality of life for the Iraqi People. 5th CAG was heavily involved in the conduct and success of numerous offensive operations to include Operations MATADOR and NEW MARKET.

HMLA-773 deployed to Afghanistan and HMLA-775 deployed to Iraq where both squadrons performed a wide variety of missions during OIF-II and OEF, from escort missions to Rotary Wing Close Air Support in support of security and stability operations and numerous offensive operations. Both squadrons were activated for 24 months.

HMM-774 deployed to Iraq and flew a wide variety of missions in support of 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, from movement of wounded Marines to transport of passengers and equipment, increasing the flow of logistical support in the area of operations. HMM-774 was also activated for a full 24-month period.

VMFA-142 flew a wide variety of missions in support of the 2d Marine

Aircraft Wing while deployed to Iraq. They conducted missions from reconnaissance to Fixed-Wing Close Air Support in support of numerous offensive operations. VMFA-142 was the first Fixed-Wing Marine Reserve Squadron to be deployed since the Korean War.

4th Maintenance Battalion provided a detachment that deployed to Iraq in order to install HMMWV Armor Kits, which are essential for the safety of Marines on the ground.

Company C, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion in support of 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines, completed more than 100 provisional infantry missions, 30 survivability missions (constructing field fortifications, bunkers and fighting positions), 20 mobility missions (breaching obstacles and reducing mines or unexploded ordnance) and 15 counter-mobility missions (emplacing obstacles that will control or deny enemy movement).

The Marine Corps Reserve continues to be a significant force provider and major participant in joint operations. Our successes have been achieved by following the same core values today that gave us victory on yesterday's battlefields. Our Total Force concept remains the cornerstone of our success, providing more options for the combatant commanders. The Marine Corps' commitment to warfighting excellence will lead to success in the GWOT, while helping to ensure America's security and prosperity.